## SENATOR JOSEPH J. CRISCO, JR.

Seventeenth District

Chief Deputy President Pro Tempore Federal Relations Liaison



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Insurance & Real Estate Committee
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Member
Appropriations Committee
Executive & Legislative Nominations Committee
Legislative Management Committee

Testimony

In Support of

SB 432: An Act Providing Notice To The Chief Executive Officer Of A Municipality Upon The Release Of A Registered Sexual Offender Into Such Municipality

March 12, 2014 Judiciary Committee

Good afternoon Senator Coleman, Representative Fox, Senator Kissel, Representative Rebimbas, distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee

For the record, I am Senator Joe Crisco. I represent the 17<sup>th</sup> District, which includes the towns of Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck and Woodbridge.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 432: An Act Providing Notice To The Chief Executive Officer Of A Municipality Upon The Release of A Registered Sexual Offender Into Such Municipality.

This bill is important in situations where a sexual offender is released into a neighborhood where many young children reside.

The bill, if passed, would give the CEO discretion to inform residents of the neighborhood so that parents could take appropriate actions with respect to the safety of their children.

This bill would have been important to a neighborhood in the Town of Woodbridge, which I represent, where a Group Home is home to two sex offenders. One of the offenders was convicted of four felony sex offense crimes, two of which involved young girls age 5 and 7. The other was convicted of two felony crimes involving sexual assault of a child.

- Within 2 blocks of the Group Home are families with 28-30 children, ranging in age from 1 to 17.
- School age children get on and off the bus mornings and afternoons and walk to their homes.
- The bus stop for one of the children was located directly in front of the Group Home. (It was relocated at the request of the parent once he learned of the residents of the Home.)

It was several years before the parents learned of the occupants of the Home, and were able to take appropriate action, such as having the bus stop moved.

I believe it is important for parents to be given the tools and information that would allow them to ensure the safety of their children. For this reasons, I urge support of this bill.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 432: An Act Providing Notice to the Chief Executive Office of a Municipality Upon the Release of a Sexual Offender into Such Municipality.